

Grant Programs Directorate Overview

Formally created on April 1, 2007 in accordance with the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA), the Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) was formed from three legacy organizations: (1) FEMA Grants Management Branch, (2) DHS Office of Grants and Training – Office of Grant Operations, and (3) DHS Office of Grants and Training – Preparedness Programs Division.

GPD is the one-stop-shop for grants management at FEMA. Since its inception, GPD has integrated the functions of its legacy organizations to create a single entity responsible for business management of all FEMA grant programs and for the programmatic management of the full suite of preparedness grant programs.

GPD recently set forth its first Strategic Plan; it identified the following strategic goals and objectives of GPD, which are aligned with FEMA's Strategic Goals:

Goal #1 – Emphasize employee development and human capital planning to ensure a continuous pipeline of knowledgeable staff to support the Grants Management lifecycle

Goal #2 – Team with internal and external stakeholders to build partnerships and increase communication

Goal #3 – Provide accurate and timely information and services that positively guide and influence grantees' use of federal funding

Goal #4 – Build a robust and standardized data analysis capability to quantify benefits and demonstrate the importance of grants management to Homeland Security priorities

Goal #5 – Streamline, standardize and document key processes to promote collaboration and consistency across regions and programs

GPD's focus is on improving grants management and related efforts to ensure meaningful and measurable results. GPD relies on the strength of its partnerships to accomplish its mission, and strives to strengthen its collaborative relationships through enhanced communication and improving strategic partnerships. By providing outstanding customer service to all grantees as well as internal and external partners; engaging state, local and tribal stakeholders through consistent outreach and discussion; and ensuring transparency in the grant process, GPD enhances the nation's level of preparedness and the public's ability to prevent, protect and mitigate against, respond to and recover from all hazards.

FEMA leads and supports the nation in a risk-based, comprehensive emergency management system of preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation, to reduce the loss of life and property and protect the nation from all hazards including natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

